

Remarks

Claims 1, 5, 15, 19, and 29-31 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 2-4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16-18, 20, 22, 24, 26, and 28 have been amended. The allowance of claims 7, 9, 13, 21, 23, and 27 is noted with appreciation. Re-examination and reconsideration of the application, in view of the amendments above and the remarks below, are respectfully requested.

The Examiner finally rejected claims 1-6, 8-12, 14-20, 22, 24-26, and 28-31 as being either anticipated by, or rendered obvious in view of, Myers et al WO97/44275.

In response, Applicants have canceled certain of the claims, and have amended others of the claims, so that all the claims now remaining in the application have either been allowed or depend, either directly or indirectly, from an allowed claim.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is now entirely in a condition for allowance. Re-examination of the application is respectfully requested, and an early Notice Of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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